SEMIANNUAL TECHNICAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR HIGH-SPEED, LONG-WAVELENGTH COHERENT RADIATION DETECTORS

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The principal consideration in the heterodyne mode of signal detection is the influence of the local oscillator power on detector characteristics. It is shown that misalignment of the local oscillator signal can seriously degrade detection performance with the detector geometry presently used. For signals incident through transparent contacts, misalignment problems are removed. Characteristics of transparent contacts are reported.

It has been established that dielectric relaxation time constant effects occur above a certain electric field. These effects, as well as nonlinearities of signal and detector resistance changes, occur at fields for which the drift length of holes is comparable to the electrode separation. This has been shown to be valid by examining detectors having different thicknesses and material having a wide range of carrier lifetimes.

Mercury-coped germanium samples which have been subjected to gallium diffusions have larger activation energies than untreated material. This change has been identified with copper gettering by the gallium-diffused surface layer.

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	A. Special Detector Considerations for Detecting Coherent Radiation

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#### SECTION I

#### GENERAL DETECTOR CONSIDERATIONS

#### A. Special Detector Considerations for Detecting Coherent Radiation

#### 1. Influence of Local Oscillator Power

#### a. Background Radiation

Photodetectors operating in the 8 to 14 micron region are limited in performance by 300°K background radiation. Signal levels are much smaller than the 300°K background power density on the det stor, i.e., much smaller than 5.0 x 10<sup>-3</sup> watt/cm<sup>2</sup>/2m steradians. Thus, resistance changes for such signals are small compared to the quiescent resistance value set by the background. Similarly, for the heterodyne mode of operation in which the local oscillator power will exceed 300°K background levels, the signal power will not significantly alter the operating conditions. For both coherent and noncoherent detection mechanisms, the signal falling on the same portion of the detector as the "background" will respond according to the average operating conditions determined by that background.

#### b. Power Considerations

For coherent detection the signal current is given by 1-4

$$i_S = R(Q_{\ell_0}Q_S)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
,

where R is the current responsivity per photon, and  $Q_{LO}$  and  $Q_{S}$  are the local oscillator and signal photon signals, respectively. Significant gain and heterodyning sensitivity limits are realized only when  $Q_{LO} \gg Q_{S}$  and  $Q_{LO}$  is greater than the 300°K background photon flux. Consequently,  $\Delta n_{S}/n_{LO} \ll 1$  or to heterodyne implies small signal considerations. It then follows that for heterodyne detection, detector considerations are related to the effect  $Q_{LO}$  has on the detector parameters. In this respect it is valuable to consider possible lifetime changes and the significance of the directional character of the coherent radiation.

#### c. Lifetime Changes

For example, consider a rector that will operate as fast as  $1.0 \times 10^{-9}$  seconds. The  $Q_{Lo}$  will be in the range  $10^{18}$  to  $10^{19}$  photons/sec/cm<sup>2</sup>. Thus, for a depth of penetration t equal to 1 mm the carrier density  $n=\eta Q_{Lo}/t\tau=10^9$  to  $10^{10}/cc$  (efficiency  $\eta$  taken as 1). Because counter doping levels which control lifetime are 2 or 3 orders of magnitude greater than this, there will be little effect on lifetime as a result of the local oscillation signal. At the same time, for lifetime in the  $10^{-6}$  sec range local oscillator power may well modify detector parameters.

## 2. <u>Detector Design Considerations Related to the Directional Property of Coherent Radiation</u>

#### a. Directional Property of Conerent Radiation

One feature of coherent radiation is its parallelism or its non-divergent character. By contrast, incoherent radiation from the 300°K background is random in direction. The consequence for detector operation can be considerable. Since the local oscillator signal originates outside the detector assembly, it has to be directed onto the detector.

In the series of illustrations in Figure 1, the results of misalignment of the local oscillator signal are detailed. Radiation covering only part  $\underline{b}$  of the detector [Figure 1(a)] will give rise to a resistivity profile [Figure 1(b)]. Even when coherent detection is utilized, the 300°K background radiation will still be present. This sets the value  $\rho_a$ , while the smaller value  $\rho_b$  is determined by the combination of both radiation fluxes. Since sections  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$  are in series, the equivalent circuit can be described as shown in Figure 1(c). The signal will be registered as a change of  $R_b$  or  $\Delta R_b$ , while  $R_a$  is unaffected even if the signal falls on section  $\underline{a}$  because no coherent radiation reference signal is present.

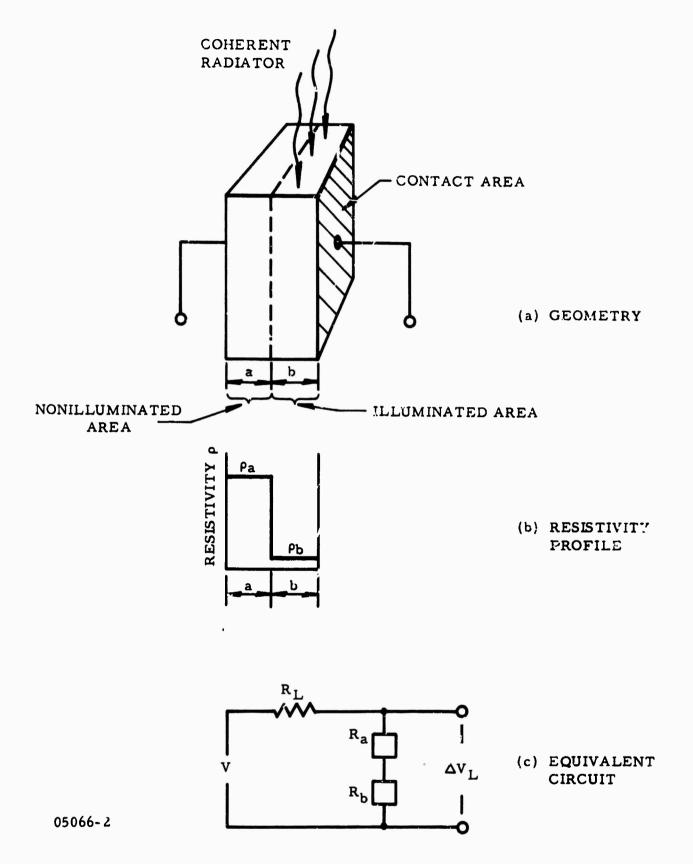


Figure 1 Conventional Detector Geometry with Coherent Radiation Incident "Normal" to the Electric Field. For the local oscillator radiation falling on a part of the detector (a), a blocking resistance develops (b) and (c), which reduces the responsivity of the detector.

For a bias voltage V impressed across the load resistor R<sub>L</sub>, the signal voltage  $\Delta V_L$  appearing across the load is given by the expression

$$\Delta V_{L} = \frac{R_{L} \Delta R_{b} I}{R_{L} + R_{a} + R_{b}}.$$

The direct current value is I. For high speeds of operation,  $R_L$  is smaller than  $R_a$  or  $R_b$  to reduce RC effects; thus, usually

$$\Delta V_L \approx \frac{R_L}{R_b} \Delta R_b I \frac{R_b}{R_a + R_b}$$
.

The last factor,  $R_b/R_a + R_b$ , is a signal reduction caused by the blocking effect of  $R_a$ , which will be at least an order of magnitude greater than  $R_b$ . For variable background conditions  $R_b/R_a$  could have values resulting in serious signal loss variations.

While good system design might reduce the probability of such misalignment, an alternative configuration, shown in Figure 2, eliminates these effects.

#### b. Transparent Contacts

In the situation depicted in Figure 2, transparent contacts have been applied to the surface through which the radiation passes. Once again we consider a local oscillator signal falling only on part  $\underline{b}$  of the detector; thus, the resistivity profile across the deactor element will be the same as in Figure 1(b). However, for the contact configuration of 2(a) the appropriate equivalent circuit is that of 2(c) in which the illuminated and nonilluminated areas are parallel resistances.

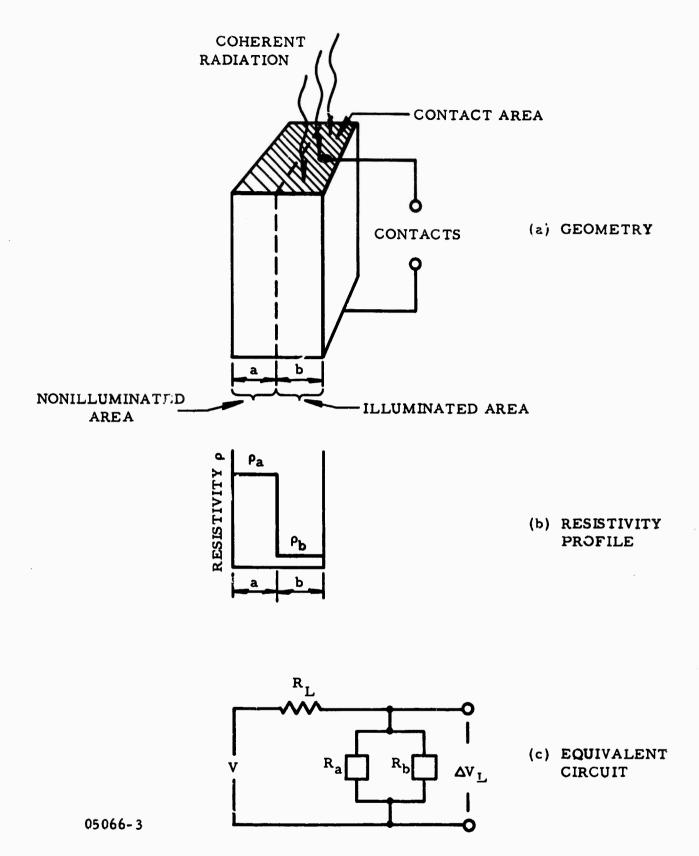


Figure 2 Collinear Detector Geometry with Coherent Radiation Incident Collinear with the Electric Field. For the local pscillator radiation falling on a part of the detector (a), no blocking resistance occurs (b) and (c).

For this case the signal voltage developed across the load resistor is

$$\Delta V_{L} = \frac{R_{L} I \Delta R_{b}}{\left(R_{L} + \frac{R_{a} R_{b}}{R_{a} + R_{b}}\right)} \left(\frac{R_{a}}{R_{a} + R_{b}}\right)^{2} .$$

For the condition discussed in the previous case, i.e.,  $R_L < R_b$ ,  $R_a$ , the above expression reduces to

$$\Delta V_{L} = R_{L} I \Delta R_{b} \cdot \frac{R_{a}}{R_{a} + R_{b}} \cdot$$

We see that for R  $_a$  10 times R  $_b$  only a slight signal loss occurs, and for extreme situations R  $_a >\!\!> R_b$  the loss is negligible.

#### c. Collinear Mode of Operation

In the mode of operation described above the radiation is incident "collinear" with the device electric field, and in this "collinear" mode of operation blocking or saturation effects are absent. [In the conventional mode of operation, e.g., Figure 1(a), the radiation is "normal" to the electric field.]

#### d. Special Design Considerations Related to the Collinear Mode

Consider a detector material having a carrier lifetime  $\tau$  of  $10^{-9}$  sec and a hole mobility  $\mu_p$  of  $10^5$  cm<sup>2</sup>/V-sec. Then for an applied bias V of 10 volts across an element thickness t of 1 mm the gain  $G = \tau \mu V/t^2$  has a value of 0.1. To achieve high gain or responsivity we require highest voltages of operation and thinnest electrode spacings. A discussion of bias effects will be presented in a subsequent section of this report; only the role of thickness will be considered here.

There are two conflicting collinear thickness requirements:

(1) small values yield high gain, and (2) large values are needed for high absorption. At this point in the program the values of mercury concentrations in Ge:Hg are generally such that element thicknesses must be at least 1 mm or 2 mm to achieve adequate absorption. Increased Hg concentrations are very desirable for the optimum collinear mode detactor operation.

#### e. <u>Some Studies of the Collinear Mode</u>

In the first phase of study of the collinear mode, some detectors with transparent contacts were made and the normal and collinear mode performances were compared. To do this, groups of four detectors, all having transparent contacts, were arranged on a mounting block as shown in Figure 3. In this configuration the spectral response and time constant measurements of the two forms can be immediately compared.

Figure 4 shows the spectral response of the two modes of operation utilizing a gold-gallium alloy contact, and Figure 5 shows spectral response for gallium diffused layers. It is apparent that no major difference occurs in the spectral response for the two modes of operation.

The long wavelength region has been emphasized as recent work has demonstrated that spectral response in this region can be related to secondary effects within the detector.<sup>5</sup>

Radiation losses occurring as the signal passes through the Au-Ga contact have been determined by comparing the current responsivity for the normal and collinear modes. Data taken on several samples are collected in Table I. The following features are apparent. The collinear mode  $\Delta I/I$  values are always larger than the normal mode values. Characteristics obtained with the set of Ge:Cu detectors having a gallium diffused layer were similar to those of the Ge:Hg samples and a Au-Ga alloy layer. Detector

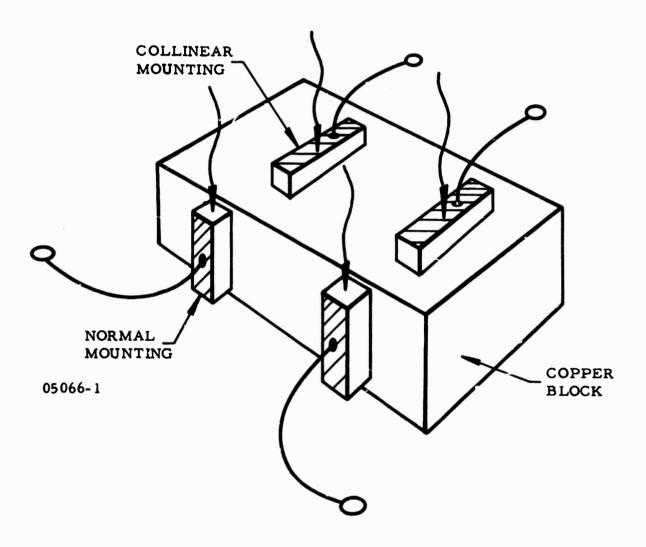


Figure 3 Arrangement of Detectors with Transparent Contacts so that Normal and Collinear Modes of Operation Can Be Investigated During the Same Experimental Run

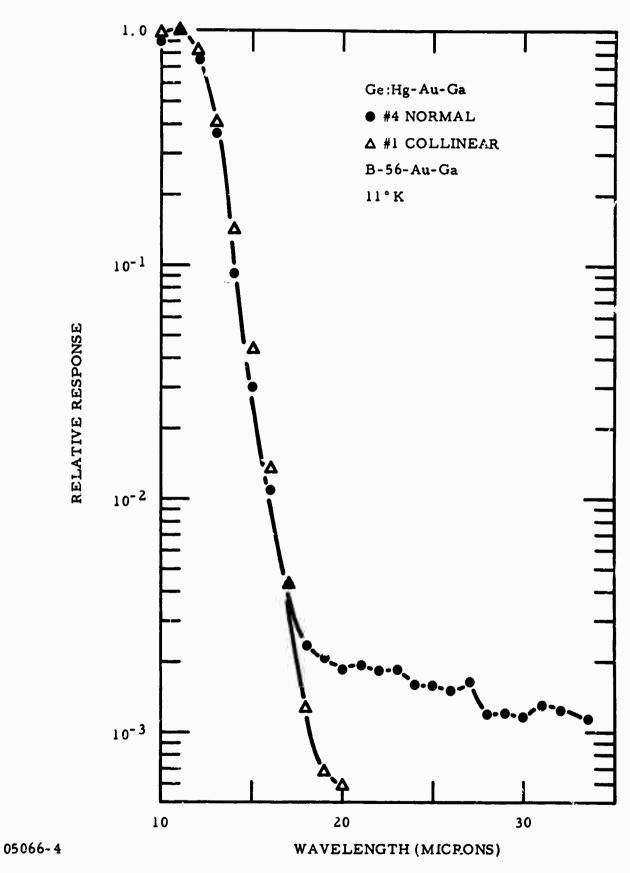


Figure 4 Normal and Collinear Spectral Response for a Gold-Gallium Alloy Contact

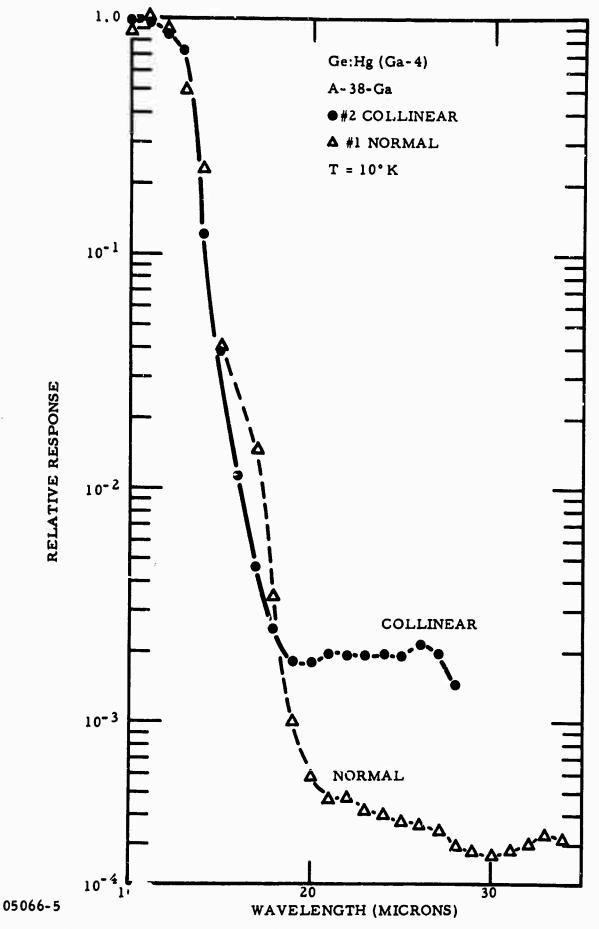


Figure 5 Normal and Collinear Spectral Response for a Gallium-Diffused Layer Contact

TABLE I

Collinear and Normal Detector Response in a Signal Field

of 1.2 x 10<sup>-5</sup> Watt/Cm<sup>2</sup>

Crystal	Element Resistance	$\frac{\Delta I}{I} \times 10^{4}$					
		Normal Coli		inear	Normal/		
		ac tua l	average	ac tua l	average	Collinear	
Au-Ga Alloy (Ge:Hg)	<b>y</b>						
DB 1170	0.4 ΜΩ	0.32		0.24			
		0.32		0.22			
			0.32		0.23	1.4	
4-4-B-56	10 κΩ	0.49		0.36			
		0.46		0.28			
			0.48		0.32	1.5	
7-1-A-56	18 κΩ	0.67		0.56			
		0.71		0.53			
			0.69		0.55	1.3	
Ga Diffusio	on						
Ge: Cu-4	130 kΩ	1,2		1.1			
				0.98			
			1.2		1.0	1.2	
					Average N	= 1.4	

resistances were identical, to measurement accuracies, and thus are not listed separately. This is taken to indicate that a significant fraction of the 300°K background radiation reached the elements through surfaces other than the one facing the entrance aperture.

The normal and collinear detector elements had identical geometries; the mounting orientation determined whether the units were operated in the collinear or the normal mode (note Figure 3). Since the radiation absorbed will be largest in the first millimeter of the detector element, the collinear mode signal will be largest unless absorption in the contact layer reduces the signal. Thus, the average value of normal/collinear = 1.4 indicates a loss of at least 30% in the contact.

Contact resistance values were determined by measuring the resistance across two small contact points approximately 4 mm apart. Resistance values were approximately 7 ohms near  $10^{\circ}$ K.

The collinear and normal modes will be compared again in a later part of the report, but no significant differences in operating characteristics have been noted.

#### B. Alignment Requirements for he advning

The discussion of heterodyning previously in this report assumed that the local oscillator signal and the incoming signal are perfectly aligned. Ross gives an expression for the falloff of signal with misalignment angle  $\theta$  as follows:

Signal for 
$$\theta = \theta$$
 = phi =  $\frac{\sin(\theta L/2)}{(\theta L/2)}$ 

where  $\beta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_r} \sin \theta$ . In this expression  $\lambda_r$  is the wavelength of the radiation and  $\ell$  is the dimension of the detector being employed.

This expression we computer-calculated and is plotted in Figure 6. The data are for 10.6-micron radiation falling on detectors of varying dimensions £. The situation described here is depicted in the insert of the figure. Note the critical angular tolerance; for a 1 mm detector the 50% falloff point is 0.36°. The alignment criterion is very severe for large detectors, indicating a practical necessity to use small detectors.

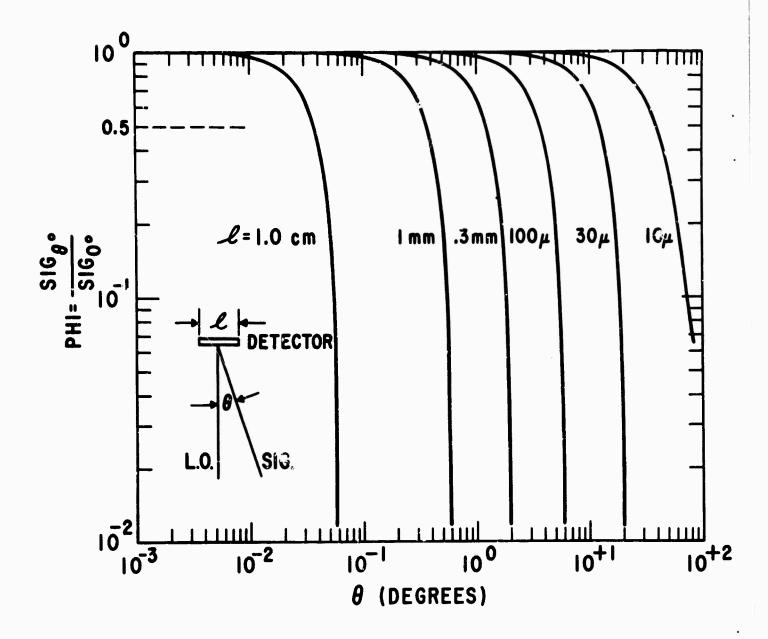


Figure 6 ralloff in Signal Response with Angular Misalignment of Signal and Local Oscillator Propagation Directions. The calculated curves are for 10.6 micron radiation and various one-dimensional detector dimensions given by each curve.

#### SECTION II

#### MATERIAL PROPERTIES

#### A. <u>Dielectric Relaxation Studies</u>

#### 1. Introduction

A recent publication has shown that a photoconductor has a component of the response time given by the dielectric relaxation (DR) time  $\tau_{\rho} = \varepsilon_{\rho}/4\pi$  ( $\rho$  = resistivity and t = dielectric constant). A continuing study of this phenomenon has demonstrated that for a given material there is a voltage above which the greater portion of the signal has a response time  $\tau_{\rho}$ , while below that voltage the DR effects are secondary. At this voltage the drift length of the holes in Ge:Hg and Ge:Cu is of the order of the electrode separation. Details of the phenomenon follow.

#### 2. Experimental

The experimental arrangement used for measuring detector element response times under reduced background conditions is identical to that utilized previously. Since resistivity rather than temperature has been found to determine the DR effect, the data to be presented were taken near helium temperatures. No different results were observed when the temperature was increased.

Figure 7 illustrates the variation of the response time form as a function of increasing bias. At low voltages the signal is principally fast, but as the bias increases, the long time constant dominates. Figure 8 is based on data from pictures such as those in Figure 7. In Figure 8 the ordinate scale is the ratio of that part of the signal having a response time  $\tau_{\rho}$  to the portion that is fast, i.e.  $A_{\rho}/A_{f}$ . This figure presents data from Ge:Hg crystals having a wide variety of sensitivities. The number in parentheses by each curve is the resistance of the element when it was

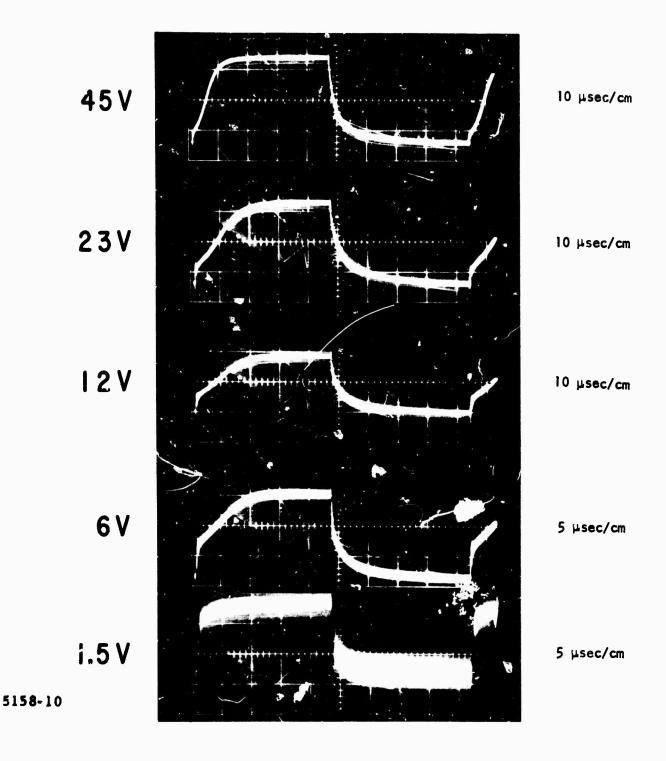
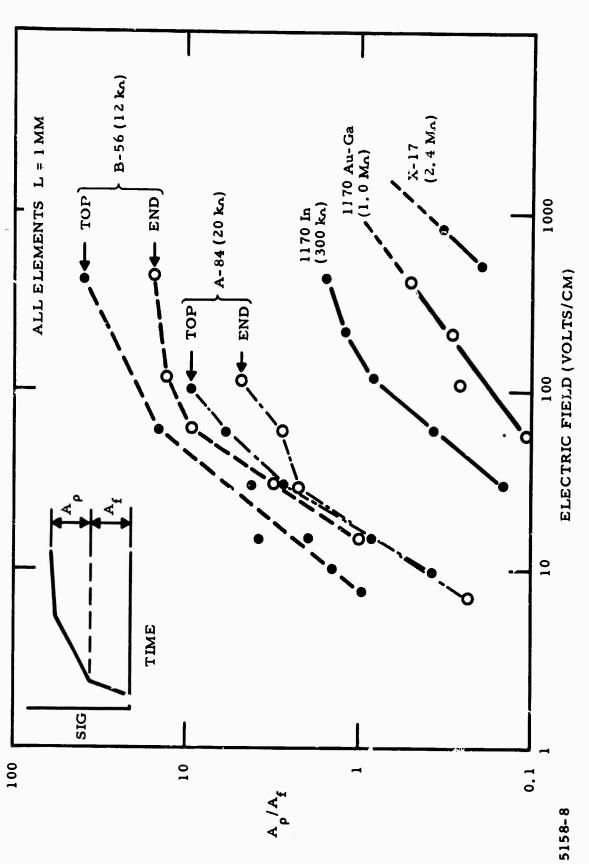


Figure 7 Photographs of Oscilloscope Traces Showing the Change from Fast to Slow Signal Response as the Detector Bias Is Increased. The number to the left of each curve is the bias used when the data were taken. Detector resistance was 8 megohms; temperature was about 5°K.



Variation of  $A_{D}/A_{f}$  (see inset) with Electric Field for Detector Materials of Varying Sensitivities. The number in parentheses by each curve is the resistance of the detector when it is exposed to a increases with loss of material sensitivity. Similar results are obtained when the sadiation is 180° field-of-view, 300°K background radiation. The field required to reach the value of  $\mathsf{A_D}/\mathsf{A_E}$ incident through contacts (tops) or through end of sample (end) (collinear versus normal), Figure 8

operated exposed to 300°% background radiation. The field required to realize  $A_p/A_f = i (E_{DR})$  increases as the sensitivity of the material falls off (higher resistance in 300°K background).

Figure 9 shows that the above low sensitivity - high  $E_{DR}$  correlation exists for other materials. The materials tested included Ge:Cu and Ge:Hg which ad varying ratios of Cu to Hg concentration. It had been noted that Ge:Cu required much higher voltages than Ge:Hg before the DR time constants were observed. To determine if this fact was related to features of the Cu (e.g., its very high diffusion coefficient), Cu was added by diffusion to Ge:Hg in increasing amounts up to a concentration 10 times that of the Hg. Data for Ge:Hg without Cu, the same Ge:Hg with varying amounts of Cu diffused in, and Ge:Cu are plotted in Figure 9. The striking feature is that again, as with Ge:Hg,  $E_{DR}$  correlates (for  $A_{\rho}/A_{f} = 1$ ) roughly with the 300°K background determined resistance of the samples, i.e., as the inverse of the sensitivity of the material.

From the two sets of data in Figures 8 and 9 it is clear that  $E_{DR}$  varies as the resistivity of the detector elements. Since for background controlled conditions R  $\propto 1/Q_B \eta \mu \tau$ , then  $E_{DR}$  must be inversely proportional to the  $\mu \tau$  product.

#### a. Field Dependence

To establish if the effects were purely field-dependent, samples were were cut in various thicknesses and  $E_{DR}$  was determined. The set of curves in Figure 10 was obtained by recutting and grinding the same elements to produce first 3 mm, then 1 mm, and finally 0.3 mm electrode separation. The electrode shape was 1 mm × 6 mm in all cases. It is clear that the  $E_{DR}$  values increase with sample thickness roughly in proportion to the electrode separation L.

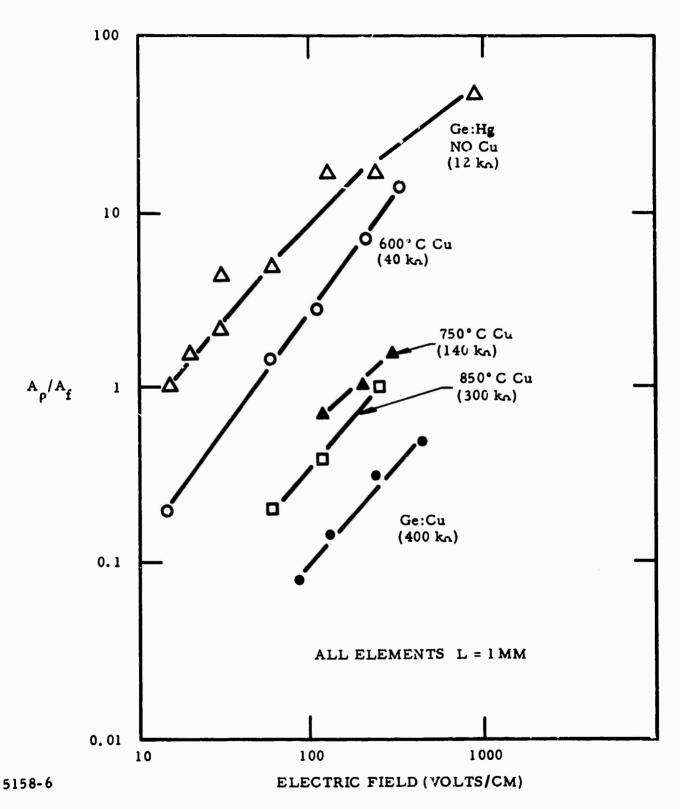


Figure 9 Variation of  $A_{\rho}/A_{f}$  with Electric Field for Se:Hg, Ge:Cu, and Mixed Ge:Hg:Cu Materials. Copper was added to Ge:Hg materials by diffusions at 600°C, 750°C, and 850°C ( $10^{14}$ ,  $10^{15}$ , and  $10^{16}$  copper atoms/cc respectively). The photographs of Figure 7 show the 600°C diffusion material.

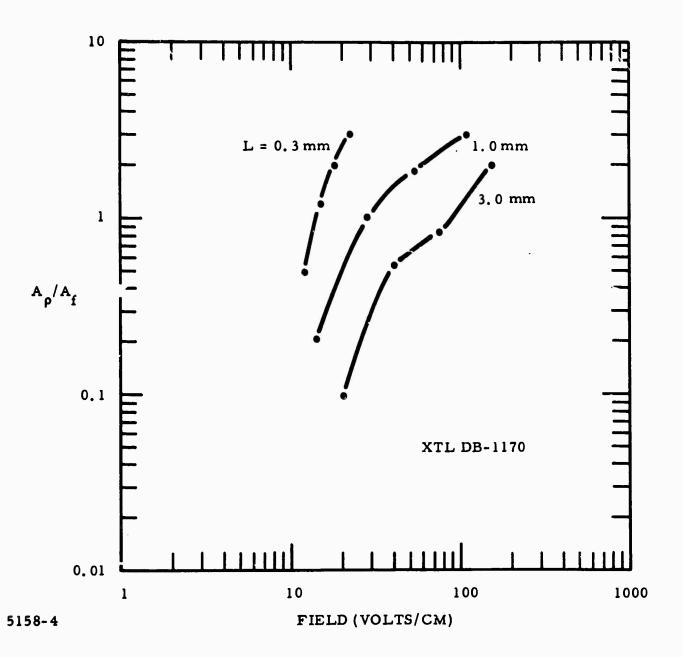


Figure 10 Variation of the Field Dependence of the DR Effects with Electrode Separation. From data such as these in the graph the onset of DR effects is shown to require fields roughly proportional to the electrode spacing.

Since  $E_{DR} \propto L$  and  $E_{DR} \propto 1/\mu T$ , it is clear that we are observing an effect associated with the drift distance,  $S = \mu E T$ , with the dielectric relaxation effects coming in with S of the order of L. Using a  $\mu$  value of  $1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V-sec}$ , a lifetime of  $10^{-7}$  sec, and L = 1.0 mm gives an  $E_{DR}$  of 10 volts per cm. Such a lifetime is representative of crystal A-84, which has an  $E_{DR}$  value of 15 to 20 V/cm (see Figure 8). Thus, a crystal such as X-17 with a short lifetime (or at least a short  $\mu T$  product) will require high fields before S becomes comparable to L. In addition, as the electrode spacing increases, E must increase to increase S to the larger L value.

#### b. Field Dependence o Other Parameters

In addition to the above field onset phenomenon, sensitivity variations occur for electric field values in the vicinity of  $\mathbf{E}_{DR}$ . Figure 11 contains sensitivity and resistance data versus bias. The photoconductive current for a fixed signal is divided by the applied bias and plotted versus bias. With such a plot deviations from a horizontal line indicate nonlinearities. It is clear that the current responsivity increases in the vicinity of  $\mathbf{A}_{\rho}/\mathbf{A}_{f}=1$ ; the  $\mathbf{A}_{\rho}/\mathbf{A}_{f}$  data are plotted on the same graph for ease of comparison. Also, the resistance of the Ge:Hg element falls in the same bias range as the responsivity. This is expected because the resistance is a direct current measurement of the inverse of the sensitivity of the element to the background radiation,  $\mathbf{I}_{DC}/\mathbf{V} \propto \mu \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q}_{B}$ .

As an extension of the above argument, the detector's open circuit voltage would not show the variation seen in Figure 11, because the  $\mu\tau$  values of the signal current factor cancel with the  $1/\mu\tau$  factor of the detector resistance. By the same argument,  $i_S/I_{DC}$  plots do not reveal the variations of Figure 11.

It should be noted that the sensitivity versus bias data compiled in Figure 11 were taken with the element resistance nearly 3 orders of magnitude smaller than when the DR effects were taken; yet the field for the onset

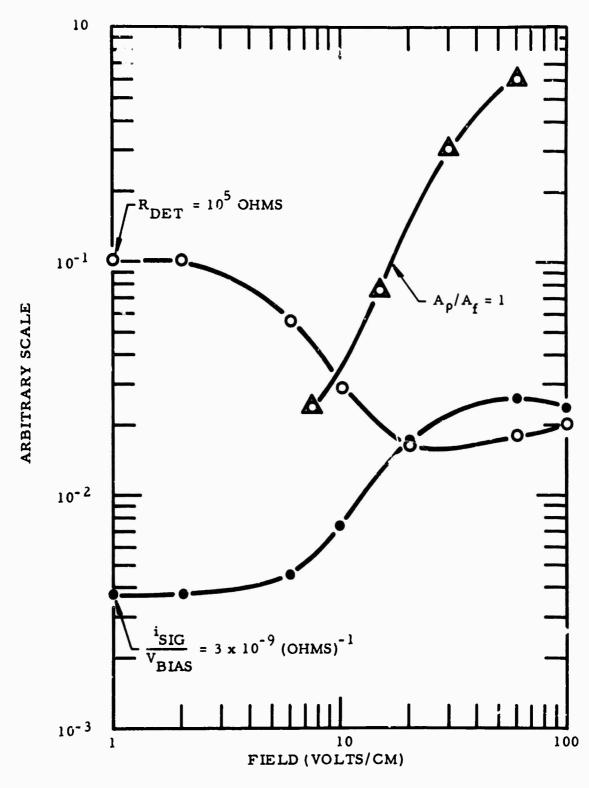


Figure 11 Variation of Current Responsivity  $i_{\text{S}}/\text{V}$ , Detector Resistance, and  $A_{\text{p}}/A_{\text{f}}$  with Electric Field. It is apparent that changes in each of the parameters occur across the same field region. Note that the responsivity increases with field as it does in all cases. Temperature of operation is  $\sim 10^{\circ}\text{K}$ .

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of the various effects remains the same. Such behavior is consistent with there being no lifetime change in the range of resistivities from  $10^5$  to  $10^9$  ohm-cm.

#### c. Saturation of the Fast Component

Another aspect of the DR phenomenon is shown in Figure 12. At liases substantially above  $E_{DR}$  it is difficult to accurately ascertain the value of  $A_f$ . To better evaluate the change of  $A_f$  with bias, the signal was measured versus bias at several frequencies. The data were taken using an InA: diode light source and varying the driving frequency square wave current. Reduced background conditions were utilized so that reasonable frequencies would be substantially above  $1/\tau_0$ .

The 15 Hz curve is a total, fast plus slow, response curve and shows the superlinearity seen for devices near  $E_{\rm DR}$ . At the higher frequencies a saturation of the signal is seen. The small turnup at the higher biases for the 15 kHz curve occurs from the increasing low frequency signal This arises as the signal has the form

$$S = \frac{A_{\rho}(E)}{(1 + \omega^{2} \tau_{\rho}^{2})^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{A_{f}(E)}{(1 + \omega^{2} \tau_{f}^{2})^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

At 15 kHz this reduces to

$$S = \frac{A_{\rho}(E)}{\omega \tau_{\rho}} + A_{f} .$$

With increasing bias, after  $A_f$  has saturated, the increasing first term will eventually be detected. By going to a still higher frequency, 150 kHz, the first term is reduced to negligible values even at the highest biases employed.

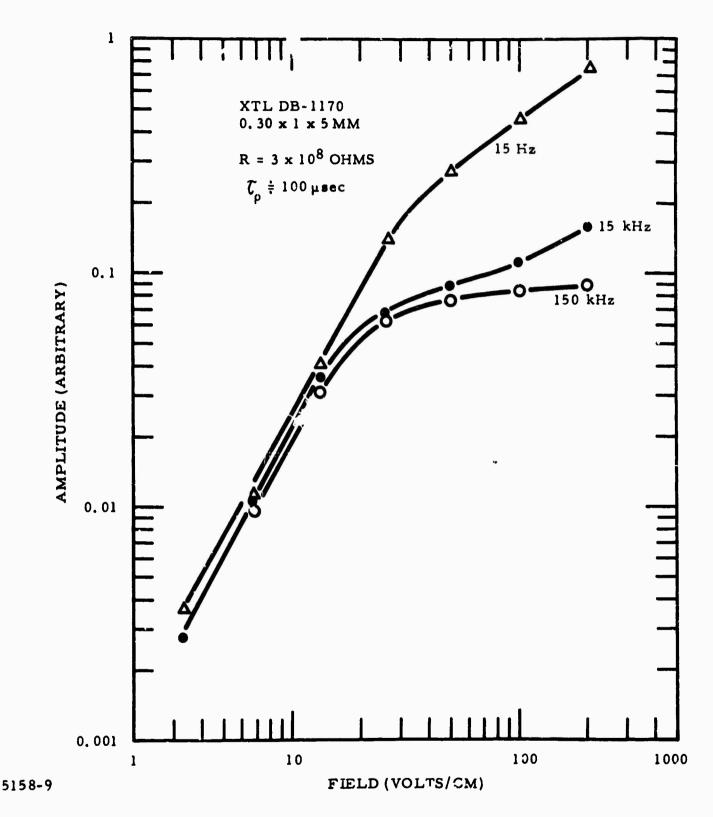


Figure 12 Variation of the Total Signal, 15 Hz, and the Fast Component, 15 kHz and 150 kHz, with Bias. By using higher frequencies the large slow component can be removed from the measurement.

For comparison with this detector element,  $A_{\rho}/A_{f}=1$  for E = 15 V/cm. (See Figure 10.) For this experiment the resistivity of the element was  $2 \times 10^{8}$  ohm-cm and  $\tau_{\rho}$  was 1.0  $\times$  10<sup>-4</sup> second.

#### 3. <u>Discussion of Results</u>

The results obtained are explained with the aid of the schematic diagram of the detector geometry (Figure 13). Consider the situation when the drift length S is a fraction of the electrode spacing L. On the average, holes generated by the background and signal radiation absorbed in a distance S from the positive electrode will drift out of this region before recombining. On the other hand, recombination will occur in this same region with holes coming from the electrode. As S increases with bias, that portion of the crystal dependent on the electrode supply of holes for recombination increases until S \geq L when all the recombination is taking place with holes originating from the electrode. Thus, it appears that quite different conditions must prevail regarding the hole supply or current flow pattern when all the recombination is with electrode-supplied holes.

With present contacting procedures, no deviation from linearity of the I-V characteristics nor any significant polarity dependence has been observed. It appears that if the contacts play a role, it must involve subtle details of the contact structure.

The possibility must be considered that the effects are primarily bulk effects, i.e., the contact is more uniform then the bulk and the difference in performance arising when S becomes comparable to L occurs because the electrode supplies charge uniformly, while the bulk nonuniformities require a particular current flow pattern.

Various explanations for the DR effects are being explored.

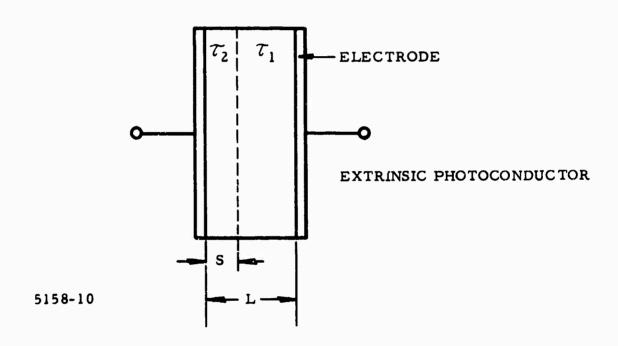


Figure 13 Schematic Diagram of a Detector. From the responsivity data it is apparent that the lifetime near the positive electrode (hole supply electrode) must be greater than in the region farther from the electrode than S  $(\tau_2 > \tau_1)$ .

#### B. <u>Impurity Interactions</u>

#### 1. Gettering of Copper with a Gallium-Diffused Layer

In the preparation of Ge:Hg crystals the presence of unwanted impurities is detected through the study of the resistance (or Hall coefficient) - temperature characteristics. In Figure 14 the resistance of a detector element is plotted against reciproca! temperature. The curve labelled "Original" has a slope indicating an activation energy of 0.039 eV. This is less than half the value expected from mercury impurities which have an ionization energy of 0.088 eV. The deviation arises because of the presence of residual p-type impurities whose concentration is such that the Fermi level is located below the Hg level.

In the course of studies of gallium-diffused layers on Ge:Hg elemen.; an increase in the activation energy was noted. Further study indicated that a gallium diffusion followed by a short anneal substantially increases the activation energy of materials which originally had values in the 0.04 to 0.06 range.

The simple explanation of this result is that the gallium-diffused layer is a region in which copper is highly soluble; thus, the diffused layer getters copper from the crystal. There are two reasons for high solubility in the diffused layer, electronic and pairing enhancement.

#### 2. Electronic Solubility Enhancement

The presence of the high acceptor concentration increases the solubility because of charge considerations by a facto.  $N_A/n_i$  over the high purity solubility  $N_0^{+,7}$ . The two curves  $N_0^{+}$  and  $N_0^{+} \times 10^{20}/n_i$  of Figure 15 indicate the solubility enhancement expected for an acceptor concentration  $N_A = 10^{20}/cc$ .

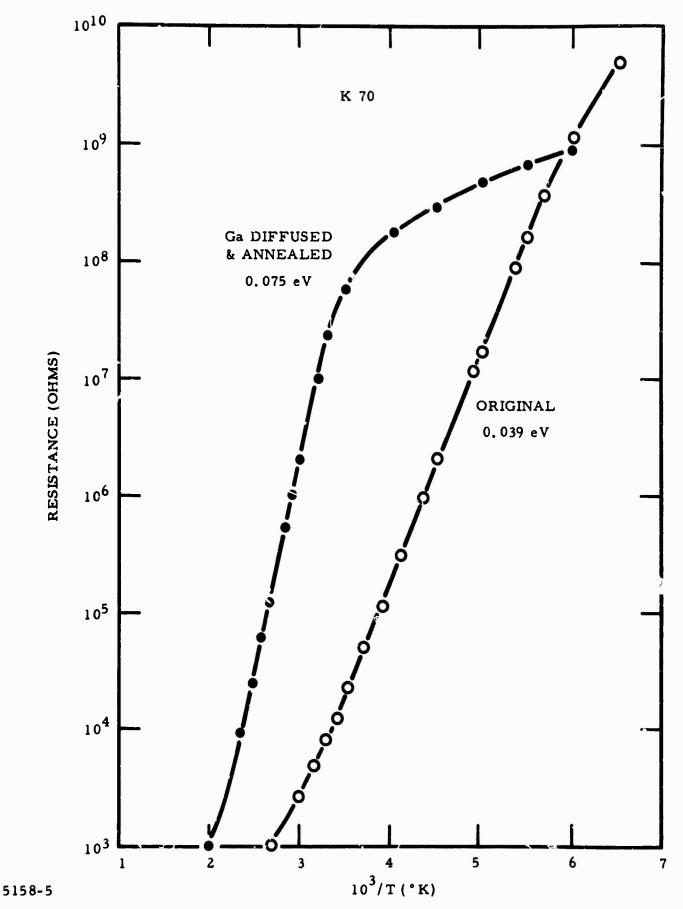


Figure 14 Impurity Gettering with a Gallium-Diffused Layer. By diffusing gallium into the surface of Ge: Hg, then annealing, impurities are removed. An improved resistance temperature characteristic results. (0... eV activation energy increased to 0.075 eV.)

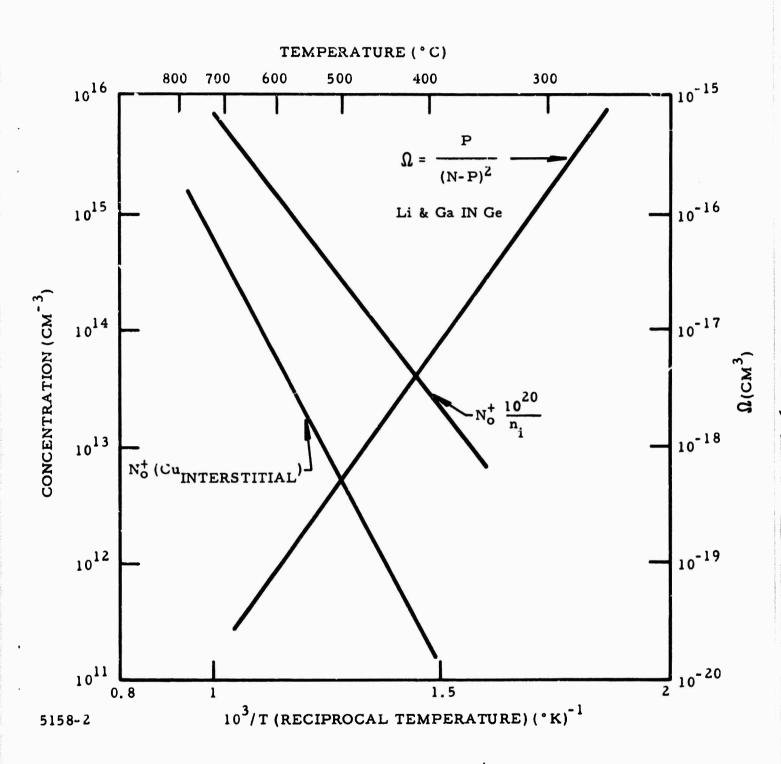


Figure 15 Solubility Enhancement due to Acceptors. N $_{o}^{+}$  high purity Cu donor solubility, N $_{o}$  x  $10^{20}/n_{i}$  solubility in presence of  $10^{20}$  acceptor atoms (electronically enhanced),  $\Omega$  the fraction of Li and Ga atoms paired in Ge (solubility enhanced as pairing increases).

#### 3. Pairing Solubility Enhancement

Pairing of acceptor gallium atoms with donor copper atoms results in the takeup of copper by the diffused layer. The third curve of Figure 15, labelled  $\Omega^{(i)}$ , is the fraction of Li ions paired with Ga ions in Ge. This is calculated data of Reis, Fuller, and Morin. This curve is plotted only to show that pairing solubility is greatly enhanced at low temperatures, while electronic solubility is greatest at highest temperatures.

#### 4. Radioactive Copper

Preliminary data taken using radic ctive Cu-64 has confirmed that copper is gettered into the diffused layer, but no details of the mechanism have yet been established.

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The principal consideration in the heterodyne mode of signal detection is the influence of the local oscillator power on detector characteristics. It is shown that misalignment of the local oscillator signal can seriously degrade detection performance with the detector geometry presently used. For signals incident through transparent contacts, misalignment problems are removed. Characteristics of transparent contacts are reported.

It has been established that dielectric relaxation time constant effects occur above a certain electric field. These effects, as well as nonlinearities of signal and detector resistance changes, occur at fields for which the drift length of holes is comparable to the electrode separation. This has been shown to be valid by examining detectors having different thicknesses and material having a wide range of carrier lifetimes.

Mercury-doped germa ium samples which have been subjected to gallium diffusions have larger activation energies than untreated material. This change has been identified with copper gettering by the gallium-diffused surface layer. Security Classification

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